



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

The Board of County Commissioners

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Allegany County Government News Release May 16, 2019

RECYCLING PLASTIC FILM CHALLENGE RESULTS

Nearly 10,000 Pounds of Plastic Recycled and Diverted from the Landfill

Allegany County's Recycling Plastic Film Challenge is now in its second year. This recycling effort is a partnership between the Allegany County Commissioners, the Allegany County Solid Waste Management Board and the Allegany County Board of Education. Students from public as well as private schools in Allegany County were invited to participate and 21 schools contributed to the collection effort held for six months during the 2018 - 2019 school year through April 15, 2019.

Allegany County Government compliments the students, teachers and schools for the successful completion of this educational and environmental project. This helps Allegany County reach its 20% recycling goal, a mandate from the State of Maryland. In total, the students enrolled in the participating schools collected and recycled 9,868 pounds of plastic film.

Campaign Sponsors

Eight entities provided a total of \$2,000 of financial support for this campaign: Advanced Disposal, American Insurance Center, Burgmeier's Hauling, Mountainview Landfill, Penn-Mar Recycling, Potomac Valley Lions Club, Standard Bank, and the Women of LaVale United Methodist Church. This generous financial support is sincerely appreciated. These sponsorships provided a total of \$2,000 for cash awards to the top five schools: 1st \$600, 2nd \$500, 3rd \$400, 4th \$300, and 5th \$200. The schools are to purchase environmental educational materials and ecofriendly items with the cash awards.

Bel Air Elementary School

The recycling campaign is based on a ratio of the pounds of plastic film collected to the total number of students enrolled in the school. Therefore, all schools have an equal chance to be the top one in the recycling campaign.

This year, Bel Air Elementary School was the top recycler. The school's 223 students collected 2,374 pounds of plastic film, a ratio of 10.65 pounds per student. Lighthouse Christian Academy and Day Care was second; these 76 students collected 593 pounds, 7.80 pounds per student. George's Creek Elementary School was third; these 308 students collected 2,254 pounds, 7.32 pounds per student. Calvary Christian Academy was fourth; these 168 students collected 497 pounds, 2.96 per student. Beginnings Montessori School was fifth; these 61 students collected 144 pounds, 2.36 pounds per student.

The other participating schools, in order of finish, were Westernport Elementary, Flintstone Elementary, West Side Elementary, Cresaptown Elementary, Frost Elementary, South Penn, Westar Middle, John Humbird Elementary, Cash Valley Elementary, Parkside Elementary, Bishop Walsh School, Washington Middle, Braddock Middle, Fort Hill High, Mountain Ridge High, and Allegany High.

Overall, this annual campaign is educational and enhances awareness of students, their household members, and the community at large about the importance of recycling. This campaign helps the environment because valuable landfill space is not utilized for 9,868 pounds of plastic film. In addition, the recycled material is used to manufacture desirable products. Finally, this campaign provides additional funding to the top five schools.

Recycling Program Information

The plastic film challenge is one component of Allegany County's successful recycling program. In addition to recycling standard newspapers, cans, glass, plastic, cardboard, and other materials, Allegany County also operates a Yard Waste and Mulch Site at 11700 PPG Road in North Branch Industrial Park.

Allegany County Government's website, www.alleganygov.org, has extensive recycling information. On the homepage, select departments and then select Recycling Office. Recycling questions may be directed to Siera N. Wigfield, Recycling Coordinator, Allegany County Department of Public Works, 301-777-5933 X 210 and recycling@alleganygov.org. The Recycling Coordinator is available to speak with school groups, civic organizations, etc. about the recycling program.

Photograph Description

Allegany County Commissioner Jacob C. Shade, left, and Allegany County Recycling Coordinator Siera N. Wigfield, right, visited Bel Air Elementary School to congratulate everyone. Left to right are: Schade, Korbin McKenzie, Dana MaBee, fifth grade teacher, Carson Van Meter, Rebecca Winters, Autumn Eirich, principal, Parker Mathews, and Wigfield.

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	School	Pounds of Plastic Film	Students Enrolled
1	Bel Air Elementary School	2,374	223
2	Lighthouse Christian Academy	593	76
3	George's Creek Elementary School	2,254	308
4	Calvary Christian Academy	497	168
5	Beginnings Montessori	144	61
6	Westernport Elementary School	593	269
7	Flintstone Elementary - Allegany	489	229
8	West Side Elementary	381	269
9	Cresaptown Elementary School	373	330
10	Frost Elementary School	243	217
11	South Penn Elementary	641	594
12	Westmar Middle School	234	274
13	John Humbird Elementary School	186	269
14	Cash Valley Elementary School	162	263
15	Parkside Elementary	92	212
16	Bishop Walsh	114	372
17	Washington Middle School	109	398
18	Braddock Middle School	131	594
19	Fort Hill High School	110	703
20	Mountain Ridge High School	85	783
21	Allegany High School	63	717
		9,868	Pounds
		4.9	Tons

lbs/student	Award
10.65	\$ 600.00
7.80	\$ 500.00
7.32	\$ 400.00
2.96	\$ 300.00
2.36	\$ 200.00
2.20	
2.14	
1.42	
1.13	
1.12	
1.08	
0.85	
0.69	
0.62	
0.43	
0.31	
0.27	
0.22	
0.16	
0.11	
0.09	